

The two judges choices went to Chet Cheesman for his work called "Crossroad," and to Kamila Sutah for her entry entitled "Eternity." Chet is a student at Matheny School in PeaPack and Kamila hails from Morris Knolls High School in Denville.

And Best in Show for this year's arts contest went to Laura Potucek of Boonton High School for her painting called, "Victoria," which will be displayed for one year in the corridor between the Cannon House Office Building and the Capitol alongside winning entries from Congressional districts across the country. I am also hoping she can visit me in Washington for the ceremony and maybe meet the Speaker of the House.

I'd also like to thank our judges William and Kitty Sturm of Budd Lake. Mr. Sturm teaches at Dover High School, operates art studios in Budd Lake and Blairstown, and also oversees the revolving art program in the atrium of the County of Morris Administration Building. Mrs. Sturm runs a specialty arts and frame shop in Budd Lake.

And finally, let me acknowledge our corporate sponsor, Schering-Plough Corporation of Madison, New Jersey. We greatly appreciate them displaying all the art in their offices and hosting the reception.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor and pleasure to represent these students and their families in Congress. It seems that almost every week, another student from the 11th District is winning an award, getting a scholarship, or being nationally recognized for scholastic or academic achievement.

This recognition is the best testament of all that the teachers, schools, parents, and communities in the 11th District are dedicated to the future of New Jersey and to our country. To them and for Congress, I say thank you.

IN HONOR OF THE ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 1996

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to commend the Arlington County Civic Federation on the occasion of its 80th anniversary celebration.

Founded in 1916 by a coalition of six neighborhood associations which saw the wisdom of working together on issues of common concern, the federation is now comprised of 68 civic organizations. It stands as the oldest countywide organization in Arlington.

As its bylaws indicate, the object of the federation shall be to promote the general welfare of Arlington County and vicinity in nonpartisan, nonsectarian, and nonpolitical manner. Its success speaks for itself. As a review of its records chronicle, practically all major improvements the county enjoys today are the result of actions initiated or supported by the federation.

It is truly the civic voice of Arlington when it debates topics and presents its views to county officials, State legislators and those of us in Congress. The federation also sponsors a candidate and congressional night to keep elected officials accountable to those who elect them. As a participant in Congress Night, I am well aware of the vital role this organization plays in our community.

Scott McGeary, whose interest in public affairs began as a Page in the U.S. Senate, has served as president of the federation for the past 2 years. He has been joined in federation leadership by vice president William F. Nolden, secretary Tommye Morton, treasurer John F. Nicholas, Jr., executive committee chairman Frances Finta, vice chairman Timothy Wise, and members Rohan Samaraweena, Sue Zajac and Larry Zaragoza. Supplemented by a legion of 14 active committees, they have addressed a wide range of local, State and Federal issues this year in keeping with the tradition of effective citizen activism.

For the entirety of its 80-year history, the federation has functioned as a sounding board for all citizens on matters of civic interest. It truly represents the grass roots opinions of its member organizations.

I am pleased, Mr. Speaker, to note the anniversary celebration of the federation and congratulate this valued organization on its many contributions to public affairs.

HONORING THE NAMELESS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Nameless Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic-minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These firemen must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in fire fighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these volunteer fire departments a debt of gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

INCREASE THE SUPPLY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

HON. TIM ROEMER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 1996

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill which has been sponsored by

20 of my Democratic and Republican colleagues that will help to increase the supply of affordable housing for low- and middle-income Americans by promoting common-sense regulatory reform to the Federal manufactured housing program. In short, this legislation would establish a private sector consensus committee to make balanced recommendations to the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development for the development, revision and interpretation of the Federal Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards.

This committee will allow equal representation for all interested parties, and will be comprised of representatives from the manufacturers; homeowners and consumer representatives; public officials; and others with a general interest in the industry. All costs involved in the conduction of the consensus standards development process will be funded through the use of existing manufacturer-funded label fees.

This bill is supported by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, interested consumer groups including the American Association of Retired Persons [AARP], the manufactured housing industry, and both Democratic and Republican Members of Congress. In fact, this proposal is the only recommendation that was unanimously agreed to in a 1994 Commission, funded by Congress; which was created to examine the Federal manufactured housing program.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that this legislation represents a common sense approach to providing regulatory reform to an industry that represents a major source of affordable, unsubsidized housing for a wide range of Americans, including first-time homebuyers, single parents and senior citizens. It represents a positive and reasonable step towards downsizing the Federal Government. At the same time, this consensus process will ensure that high building standards and full consumer protection is maintained. I urge my colleagues to support bipartisan consensus legislation.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 7, 1996

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, as the National Basketball Association playoffs move into high gear, I would like to pause for a moment to recognize some young basketball players from North Carolina who achieved the ultimate thrill—winning State high school basketball championships. We are particularly thrilled, Mr. Speaker, because all three high schools are located in our part of the State.

North Carolina has long divided its schools into classifications to determine sports champions. This method offers an assurance that schools of equal size can compete fairly. This system also allows more schools the opportunity to compete for titles and trophies. We are proud to say, Mr. Speaker, that the Piedmont Triad is the home of North Carolina's 4-A, 3-A and 2-A champions for 1996. One three high school basketball champions were crowned on March 23 in Chapel Hill, NC.